



City of Charleston
South Carolina

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.
MAYOR

BARBARA W. VAUGHN
DIRECTOR
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs Launches New Web Site

CHARLESTON, S.C.—The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs is pleased to announce www.CharlestonArts.sc, a companion Web site to the current City of Charleston's Web site, which will now house the Arts in Charleston Calendar. This dynamic, interactive site features modified navigation, uniformity, appearance and accessibility and is updated daily with information and features that are not currently available on the OCA's page of City of Charleston Web site at www.CharlestonCity.info. The OCA's primary Web page will continue to reside on the City of Charleston's Web site, but will use the new companion site at www.CharlestonArts.sc to provide additional information and features.

"We are hopeful that CharlestonArts.sc will be continue to be a major benefit to local artists and arts organizations by disseminating information about their events with the most up-to-date information to a broader public," says Ellen Dressler Moryl, Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs. "This new version of the Arts in Charleston Calendar provides a highly efficient way to improve communications between the arts community and their constituents, increasing audiences and hopefully attracting many new patrons."

Other enhancements with CharlestonArts.sc include:

- A central location for the expanding Arts in Charleston Calendar, where users can search for Charleston arts event information according to date, presenting group, artist, art discipline, or venue.
- Social networking widgets: information on the Web site can be sent to social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, MySpace and more.
- Arts organizations can download forms from the Office of Cultural Affairs, submit events, update contact information and compare performance dates with other area organizations.
- Directory of Arts and Cultural Organizations and a Directory of Venues with contact information, details and images.
- The Tools for Professional section of the Web site features job listings for arts professionals, including full time and part time work as well as internships and volunteer opportunities with arts and cultural organizations in the tri-county area. Organizations are encouraged to update their postings on this site frequently as these services are free of charge.
- Updated grant opportunities for arts organizations, with detailed information including, deadlines, application and contact information.
- Call for Submissions and Call of Auditions pages with details about the location, deadlines, fees and additional requirements.

The new Web site also hosts connecting pages for general information on the Office of Cultural Affairs and its projects: The Charleston Farmers Market, the City Gallery at Waterfront Park, Holiday

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Magic, Happy New Year Charleston!, Holiday Parade of Boats, Lowcountry Quarterly Arts Grant Program, Piccolo Spoleto and MOJA Arts Festival.

The Arts in Charleston Calendar, a project of the Office of Cultural Affairs since 1978, is published once a month as a public service in The Post and Courier. To date, the City of Charleston's Web site, www.charlestoncity.info, was hosting the calendar. However because of the growing arts community and events, a separate Web site was needed to organize and manage the increased volume of events in serving arts organizations and individual artists as well as residents and visitors seeking this information.

Carolina Media Services, located in North Charleston, S.C., donated their services to help build CharlestonArts.sc. "Our Company devotes 20% of our time to non-profit purposes, so the Charleston arts idea is part of our company's commitment to promoting Charleston as the number one location on the East coast for Arts and Cultural events," says Dennis Stewart, President of Carolina Media Services. "We committed to the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce more than two years ago to promote the arts in all areas of the State, and since we live in the Charleston area, developing this web site was particularly interesting and challenging to my staff."

Founded in 2004, Carolina Media Services' goal is to be the "Google" for South Carolina. The company currently operates more than 1,000 South Carolina-based Web sites that promote local businesses, offers 20 genres of Music on www.Radio.sc and owns more than 100 local online magazines, listed on www.Magazines.sc.

The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs is committed to promoting and fostering excellence through artistic expressions, thereby enhancing the quality of life for all of Charleston's citizens regardless of economic, social, or physical considerations. For more information, please call (843) 724-7305 or e-mail info@charlestonarts.sc.

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FOR MORE INFO:

Barbara W. Vaughn, Director
Media Relations/Public Information
Phone: (843) 724-3746 Fax: (843) 724-3734
Email: vaughnb@ci.charleston.sc.us